

Family Group Record for Willard Lincoln CONVERSE

Husband	Willard Lincoln CONVERSE-[20845]	
Born	26 Mar 1870	, Sumner twp, Winneshiek, IA
Christened		
Died	3 May 1929	St Paul, Ramsey, MN
Buried	May 1929	St Paul, Sunset Memorial, Ramsey, MN
Father	Senator Samuel Ambrose CONVERSE-[12921] (1843-1919) [MRIN:4173]	
Mother	Ellen MUNSON-[12920] (1849-1922)	
Marriage	8 Sep 1896	Sioux City, Woodbury, IA [MRIN:7264] 1, 2

Wife	Eva Mary KLECKNER-[20859] 3	
Born	18 Oct 1871	Freeport, , Stephenson, IL
Christened		+
Died	29 Nov 1956	Mt Pleasant, , Henry, IA
Buried	Dec 1956	St Paul, Sunset Memorial, Ramsey, MN
Father	[MRIN:7274]	
Mother		

Children

1	F	Dorothy CONVERSE-[20860]
Born	21 Jun 1897	Cresco, New Oregon twp, Howard, IA
Christened		
Died		
Buried		
2	M	Richard Robinson CONVERSE-[20861]
Born	24 Jul 1899	Cresco, New Oregon twp, Howard, IA
Christened		
Died		
Buried		
3	M	Harry Willard CONVERSE-[20862]
Born	18 May 1902	Cresco, New Oregon twp, Howard, IA
Christened		
Died		
Buried		
4	F	Helen CONVERSE-[20863]
Born	7 Aug 1907	Cresco, New Oregon twp, Howard, IA
Christened		
Died		
Buried		
5	M	Franklin Samuel CONVERSE-[20864]
Born	12 Mar 1910	St Paul, Ramsey, MN
Christened		
Died	30 Dec 1955	, , Isanti, MN 4
Buried		

General Notes (Husband)

BIOGRAPHIES OF WILLARD LINCOLN AND EVA KLECKNER CONVERSE

 Willard Lincoln Converse, the son of Samuel Ambrose and Ellen Munson Converse, was born on the 26th of March 1870, in Sumner

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General Notes (Husband)(cont.)

Township, Winneshiek County, Iowa.

He received a good education in the district schools while working on his father's farm. He graduated from Cresco High School in 1889 and received his PhB degree from the University of Iowa in 1895. He had taken a law course with his collegiate course and was admitted to practice law in 1895.

While at the University of Iowa, he was a member of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and catcher of the Varsity Baseball Team. (I recall his telling of batting against the famed Amos Alonzo Stagg who had just become coach at the University of Chicago--no eligibility rules in those days!). He played left halfback on the varsity football team (the first Iowa football team to play east of the Mississippi River), was editor-in-chief of the S. U. 1. Quill (the student newspaper) and in his senior year he was Cadet Captain of The Battery.

He opened his law office in Cresco, Iowa in 1895. On the 8th of September 1896, he was married in Sioux City, Iowa, Mary Kleckner, a classmate at the University of Iowa. born October 18, 1871 at Freeport, Illinois.

In 1898, Willard was elected County Attorney of Howard County and was re-elected in 900. He was a member of the I.O.O.F. and the Congregational Church.

In 1907 the family moved to South St. Paul, Minnesota where he practiced law for the rest of his life, and taught Pleading and Evidence at the St. Paul College of Law.

He was active in community affairs including election and re-election as Judge of the First Judicial District of Minnesota, being President of the South St. Paul School Board, founding the first Boy Scout Troop in South St. Paul, but declining a request to run for State Senator. He later resigned his Judgeship to re-enter private practice, primarily because he had two sons about to become lawyers.

Willard died May 3, 1929 in St. Paul at age 59. He was buried there in Sunset Memorial Park. Eva lived another 27 years, dying at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa on November 29, 1956 at age 85. She, too, was buried at St. Paul in Sunset Memorial Park.

Written by Harry and Emma Converse

General Notes (Wife)

Eva Mary was the daughter of Isaac F. and Emma F. Kleckner. Isaac Kleckner was the Stephenson county clerk. In June 1949 Eva was living in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa.

General Notes for Child Dorothy CONVERSE-[20860]

In the June 1900, the oldest child in Willard and Eva Converse was a male named Georgie, born June 1897.

General Notes for Child Harry Willard CONVERSE-[20862]

Harry married Erma -----.

General Notes for Child Franklin Samuel CONVERSE-[20864]

Death Certificate for Franklin Samuel Converse indicates a birth date of 12 March 1911.

Source Citations

1. MUNSON, Paul L., "Munson Family History, 1812 - 1989" (Milwaukee, Tech/Data Pub, 1990), Page 195.
2. *United States Federal Census*, (U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001), 1900 - Iowa, Howard county, Vernon Springs township, Cresco city, Ward 2; SD 77, ED 110, sheet 16 A, Line 15, Dwelling 341, Family 349. 12 June 1900. Lawyer.

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3. Ibid, 1880 - Illinois, Stephenson county, Lancaster or Silver Creek; SD 2, ED 173, Page 15, Line 33, Dwelling 138, Family 140. 4 June 1880.

4. *Minnesota Death Certificate* (State of Minnesota, Minnesota Death Index, 1908 - 2002, Minnesota Department of Health, Minneapolis, Minnesota.), 1955-MN-006635; 30 Dec 1955, Isanti county, Minnesota.